SPEECHES FOR STUDY

KLEISER

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SPEECHES FOR STUDY

Speeches for Study

AND

SUGGESTIONS FOR SPEECH-MAKING

By

GRENVILLE KLEISER

For the Exclusive Use of Grenville Kleiser's Mail Course Students

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TO THE STUDENT

THE critical parts of a speech are the beginning and the conclusion. I give you here varied illustrations for careful study. Familiarize yourself with these forms by reading them aloud several times.

I also give you some short speeches, not merely for actual use or imitation, but rather for their suggestive value. Take one of these at a time, and study each word, phrase, and paragraph, until the entire speech has been thoroughly impressed upon your mind. You will fully appreciate the value of this study and analysis of the forms and methods of other speakers when you come to apply the results to an original effort.

GRENVILLE KLEISER.

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THE INTRODUCTION

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To know precisely how to begin and how to end an address greatly simplifies the art of speech-making. Many experienced public speakers affirm that the most difficult part of a speech is comprized in the first few words. Once they are fairly started, the rest becomes comparatively easy. A favorable introduction imparts confidence to both the speaker and the audience.

What is the chief fault of the amateur speaker? It is his tendency to apologize, usually at the outset, so that the attention of the hearer is immediately directed to his confest shortcomings. He thus prejudices the audience against him, since he had no right to appear before them "unprepared" and "unaccustomed."

Make it an invariable rule not to belittle yourself to your audience. Do not speak of yourself as "an unworthy member of the noble profession which has been so generously toasted," nor express the wish that your speech had "fallen to the lot of some one better able to do it justice."

Studiously avoid such expressions as "I rise with diffidence," "I was quite unprepared for," "I feel rather embarrassed," "I must ask your indulgence," "I am greatly troubled in my mind," "As the hour is waxing late I will not detain you," "You see before you a fortunate and an unfortunate man," "You will, I am sure, compassionate me in the position in which I find myself," and "I shall inflict myself upon you for only a few minutes."

To propose a toast properly is not a difficult thing. It is largely a matter of using good English, having common sense, and knowing what you are about. You rise and say:

Gentlemen: It is my agreeable duty to propose "the healths of the Army and the Navy," our brave defenders.

You perhaps speak of their courage and chivalry, and in felicitous terms give the name of the gentleman who is first to respond. He rises and says:

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge with thanks the toast of

"The Army." It is a great pleasure to know that wherever Americans gather together in this way the American soldier is remembered with appreciation.

You will observe that the following illustrations in after-dinner speaking are marked by simplicity and cordiality. Read each one carefully.

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen: I thank you sincerely for the hearty reception you have given to this toast. I appreciate very much the warmth of your welcome, and the cordial and graceful sentiments exprest by the previous speaker. The occasion which has brought us together is an extremely interesting one.

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen of The Public Speaking Club: Through the generous impulse of your committee I enjoy the privilege of responding to this toast.

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen: The frequent and far too complimentary manner in which my name has been mentioned to-night, and the most kind way in which you have received me, have placed me in a position somewhat humiliating; for to receive laudation which one feels one can not possibly have merited, is much more embarrassing than to be passed by in a distribution of commendation to which possibly one might lay some claim.

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen: I thank you very sincerely for the cordial way in which you have proposed and received my name. I can not but believe that this generosity on your part is due rather to your partiality than to any extreme merit on my part.

Ladies and Gentlemen: In rising to acknowledge your kindness in drinking my health, I can assure you I deeply appreciate the words in which it has been proposed to you by my good friend Mr. ———.

The after-dinner speech is usually in light vein, and may begin with a pointed story; for example, one of the following:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I have heard of an Irishman who, on being asked by a kind-hearted person if he would have a drink of whisky, made no reply at first, but struck an attitude and stood gazing up into the sky. "What are you looking at, Mike?" inquired his friend. "Bedad, sir," said Mike, "I thought an angel spoke to me."

Gentlemen: As I sat here this evening, listening to the strains of that fine old bankers' anthem entitled, "When you ain't got no money, why, you needn't come around," I was thinking what a grand idea it was for you magnates to get

together once a year to exchange ideas and settle among yourselves what shall be done, and who shall be done, and how you will do them.

Brougham, Webster, and many other distinguished public speakers carefully prepared the most striking passages in their speeches, and wove them with wonderful dexterity into their extempore efforts. If you will closely study various examples presented here, you will gradually develop a taste for oratorical form, and at the very moment when needed, many phrases and passages will leap to your lips in a surprizing manner. Mark with a pencil those of the following passages which most impress you and which you think likely to be of use in your own speaking:

Ladies and Gentlemen: At a large dinner party in Washington, a lady sitting next to William M. Evarts, then Secretary of State, said to him, "Mr. Evarts, don't you think that a woman is the best judge of other women?" "Ah, madam," said the great lawyer, "she is not only the best judge, but the best executioner!"

Ladies and Gentlemen: There is a characteristic saying of Dr. Johnson: "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." The saying is cynical,

many will even call it brutal; yet it has in it something of plain, robust sense and truth.

Ladies and Gentlemen: An American visiting London found it difficult to get a cup of coffee to his liking. The waiter casually remarked, as he served the gentleman's breakfast: "It looks like rain, sir." "It does," said the American, "but, you know, I ordered coffee."

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: It is pleasant to me to meet this great and brilliant company, and doubly pleasant to see the faces of so many distinguished persons on this platform.

Ladies and Gentlemen: The position in which I find myself this evening reminds me of a story told to me by ———.

Mr. President and Gentlemen: It is difficult for me to respond adequately to your most kind greeting, and the too flattering words that have fallen from the lips of my friend ——— ———. My feelings are none the less sincere and hearty, even if I can not put them into language.

Mr. Chairman: I am grateful to you for the compliment implied in your invitation to address you. I know of only one greater pleasure in life than to be called upon to make an after-dinner speech, and that is *not* to be called upon to make one.

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I rise to thank you for your most generous greeting for myself, my friends, and for all those included in the various remarks which have been made here to-day.

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I am encumbered with diverse misgivings in being called upon to rise and cast the first firebrand into this peaceful assemblage, which has evidently been enjoying itself so much up to the present time.

Ladies and Gentlemen: In view of the known character of the speaker who is to address you to-day, and his long public career, it would not be becoming in me to detain you with many remarks of my own. It may be proper for me to say, however, that . . .

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: Will you permit me to rise and say a few words upon this momentous question?

Mr. Chairman: It gives me great pleasure to place before you the name of a candidate worthy of the highest honors you can bestow upon him, Mr. ——— ———.

My Friends: I am glad again to be in the city of ——— and exchange greetings with her people, to whose generous hospitality I am not a stranger, and with whose good will I have been repeatedly and signally honored.

My Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am glad to see such an assembly here to-night, because the question we are to consider together is one of unusual significance.

Gentlemen: The unmistakable outbreaks of zeal which occur all around me show that you are earnest men—and such a man am I. Let us, therefore, at least for a time, pass all secondary and collateral questions, whether of a personal or of a general nature, and consider the main subject of the present canvass.

As a usual thing, a speech should begin with some short, crisp sentence. This will attract and hold the attention of the hearer better than a labored introduction like this:

Mr. Chairman: The subject now under the consideration of the committee is of such vast extent, of such vital importance to this country, and involves so many topics which demand minute investigation, that I wish, at setting out, to be understood as not pretending to go through all the observations that may be applicable to its circumstances, but as endeavoring to present it in a mere general view, persuaded that the omissions I shall make will be amply supplied by the gentlemen who are to follow me in the discussion.

Contrast with this one of the following:

Sir: The gentleman from Virginia says the argument in favor of this expunging resolution has not been answered. Sir, there are some questions so plain that they can not be argued. Nothing can make them more plain; and this is one of those questions.

Mr. President: You must let me complain of this sudden distinction you have thrust upon me. It is only two minutes ago that I was told that I must answer to this toast. The honors of this important occasion have been very wisely distributed by the gentlemen who have kindly undertaken to arrange all for us; but it seems that on me they have imposed the burdens.

Gentlemen: One hundred years ago to-day a man died! He died immortal; laden with years, with labors, and with the most illustrious and formidable of responsibilities.

My Lords: I do not think that ever but once before in the whole course of my public life have I risen to address either House of Parliament with the anxiety under which I labor at this moment.

Mr. Speaker: Among all the people of the world, I know none who have shown more zeal for the liberty of their country than Americans have done.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention: If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could better judge what to do, and how to do it.

Mr. President: The question now about to be discust by this body is, in my judgment, the most important that has attracted the attention of Congress or the country since the formation of the Constitution. It affects every interest, great and small, from the slightest concern of the individual to the largest and most comprehensive interest of the nation.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Conference: I have been honored with the request that I should address you on the desirableness of arbitration as a method of settling international disputes.

Ladies and Gentlemen: In speaking to you this evening about . . . . I must in the first place give you a very brief sketch of the circumstances which . . . After that I shall try to show you . . . Lastly, I shall touch upon one or two questions which . . .

Friends: On this solemn and joyful day we again lift to the breeze our fathers' flag, now again the banner of the United States, with the fervent prayer that God will crown it with honor, protect it from treason, and send it down to our children, with all the blessings of civilization, liberty, and religion. Terrible in battle, may it be beneficent in peace.

Gentlemen: I do not think it is necessary to debate this question with any great amount of heat, or with set oratorical phrases, or with great warmth of invective or vituperation. The question itself is as simple a question as ever presented itself to this House.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: In addressing you to-day, I am warmed by the enthusiastic welcome which you have been pleased to accord to me. I am, on the other hand, daunted when I recollect, first of all, what large demands I have to make on your patience; and secondly, how inadequate are my powers, and how inadequate almost any amount of time you can grant me, to set forth worthily the whole of the cause which ought to be laid before you in connection with the coming election.

My Fellow Citizens: No people on earth have more cause to be thankful than ours, and this is said reverently, in no spirit of boastfulness in our own strength, but with gratitude to the Giver of Good, who has blest us with the conditions which have enabled us to achieve so large a measure of well-being and happiness.

The student of public speaking will find it worth his while to study closely the methods of great preachers. In many respects they represent the highest type of oratory, in thought, Eng-

lish style, oratorical form, and delivery. Read the following introductions, for their suggestive value:

There are two kinds of solitude: the first consisting of isolation in space; the other, of isolation of the spirit. The first is simply separation by distance. When we are seen, touched, heard by none, we are said to be alone.

It is to be presumed that a person will express himself. Expression characterizes personality. If God is a person, the universe may be called an expression of God. The universe is, therefore, an intimation of certain truths about God.

It is through emphasis that we influence our fellows. The monotone is never listened to for any length of time; it has in it no power to stir another's soul and rouse it to action. Only when a man, in speech or in conduct, puts special energy into his expression can he awaken the attention of the careless and fire cold hearts.

When a man is learning to be a Christian, it matters not what his particular work in life may be; the work he does is only the copy-line set to him; the main thing to be considered is that he learn to live well. The form is nothing, the execution is everything.

Faith is that direct connection with God which vindicates spirit as the ultimate and substratal fact. It is biological as underlying all that is morphological. It unlocks all the riddle of the senses. Faith is that faculty of the soul in which it realizes its Maker.

There are two conflicting theories nowadays as to the origin of man. One theory brings him upward from the brute, the other, downward from God; one gives him an ascent from the ape, the other a descent from the Almighty. I shall waste no time in refuting the first theory.

It is always an advantage for the advocate of any particular cause to know the tactics of his adversary. He will be the better prepared for the onset, and repel the attack the more easily. Forwarned of danger, he will entrench himself in a position from which it will be impossible to dislodge him.

I suppose there is no one here who has not thought more or less about Christ. You have heard about Him, and read about Him, and heard men preach about Him. For eighteen hundred years men have been talking about Him and thinking about Him; and some have their minds made up about who He is, and doubtless some have not.

I am going to ask you a question, my dear brethren, so trite, and therefore so uninteresting

at first sight, that you may wonder why I put it, and may object that it will be difficult to fix the mind on it, and may anticipate that nothing profitable can be made of it. It is this: "Why were you sent into the world?"

The greatest service we can do a human being is to give him a right education, physical, intellectual, moral and religious. If it is our duty to do good to all, as far as in us lies, it is our duty to labor for the education of all, that no child of God may live with an enfeebled body, or a darkened mind, or a callous heart, or a perverted conscience.

"I wish," said a great man of our day, "that some one would preach under the dome of St. Paul's, on the text, 'Where art thou, Adam?'" A noble subject, my brethren, when we think of it! But who is equal to the task of handling it? The work of God is quick and powerful—may it be so now. He Himself using it, and prospering it in the thing whereto He sent it.

Who is the Holy Spirit? He is the third person of the blest Trinity. In opposition to much of the false and pernicious teaching of our day, I emphasize the truth that the Holy Spirit is a person, not an influence—some one, and not some thing. I do not need to tell you that the tripersonality of the divine nature is essential to the life, communion, and blessedness of God.

During my late visit to my native land I had the great enjoyment of seeing, and somewhat carefully studying, Munkacsy's famous picture of "Christ Before Pilate." Rarely, if ever, had I been so much moved by a work of art; and I propose to give, as nearly as I can recall it, the sermon which it preached to me as I sat silently contemplating the figures, which, even as I looked at them, seemed to grow before me into life.

Men are ranked by their vision. In a very real sense, the vision makes the man. It gives him his reach and his power. One man sees nothing new in the materials of life and work, and he becomes one of the world's drones, or one of the world's blind drudges. Another man sees an engine in the kettle, a new language in the clouds, an angel in the marble, a hero in the child, a people in the multitude, and he becomes an inventor, an artist, a prophet, a statesman.

Some years ago a painter who admired the moral beauty of Christ's character, but who refused to acknowledge that He was God, resolved to paint Christ's portrait from the evangelical records. For weeks he read these simple gospels and opened his soul to every suggestion of beauty and moral impulse, permitting himself to be moved and swayed by all the grandeur and radiance of that matchless life, knowing that only thus could he catch and reproduce on canvas the face he would portray. But in his process of sympathetic study of Jesus his unbelief slowly passed away.

When the Rev. Dr. Guido Verbeck was visiting my home along the Hudson some years ago, among the many delightful things he told us as to the delicacy of thought of the Japanese mind and the fine things in its literature, was this quotation from an ancient poem in that tongue: "There are men who, walking along the common highway, will pick up a stone, split it, and make a gem of it; this is because they know gems. There are men who enter the very mountains of wealth and come out empty-handed; this is because they do not know gems."

Reread many times these various examples. Write out specimen introductions of your own for imaginary occasions. How would you, for instance, propose a toast, introduce the speaker of the evening, address a body of business men, propose the name of a candidate for office, begin a speech at a wedding or a birthday?

Invariably commit to memory the introduction and conclusion of every speech you intend to give. This will tend to rid you of undue anxiety, and will prove one of the best means of insuring success in public speaking.

THE CONCLUSION

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Many otherwise good speeches have been ruined by a weak or long-drawn-out conclusion. One of the most distressing things to an audience is to observe a speaker looking vainly for some hospitable harbor. The method of Henry Clay "to plunge headlong into a difficult paragraph and trust to the Creator to help him out," is not a safe precedent for most men. The closing part of the address, no less than the introduction, should be well defined in the speaker's mind. This will free him from the embarrassment of uncertainty, and serve to prevent a loose and unsatisfactory ending.

"Gentlemen, I thank you," is not now in best repute, since it has been used so frequently by those who had no other means of escape. When you say "Finally," or "Just a word and I have done," be sure to live up to it. To speak on indefinitely after serving notice on yourself to stop, is likely to turn an audience against you.

The conclusion, unlike the introduction, requires one or more long sentences. It will not do for the speaker to appear to end abruptly. The effect suggested by the close of a great musical composition may be imitated here to advantage. The rate grows gradually slower, special thoughts are emphasized, and a succession of phrases convey a sense of amplitude to the listening ear.

A true orator not only knows when he should stop but *how* to stop. If he has the conclusion clearly outlined in his mind, he can turn to it the instant he feels his allotted time has about expired. The extracts that follow illustrate many forms of conclusions. Study these thoughtfully and you will soon have a clear idea of how to conclude a speech of your own:

And, finally, Mr. President, I implore, as the best blessing which heaven can bestow upon me on earth, that if the direful and sad event of the dissolution of the Union shall happen, I may not survive to behold the sad and heartrending spectacle.

Neither let us be slandered from our duty by false accusations against us nor frightened from

it by menaces of destruction to the government or of dungeons to ourselves. Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it.

Relying, then, on the patronage of your good will, I advance with obedience to the work, ready to retire from it whenever you become sensible how much better choices it is in your power to make. And may that Infinite Power which rules the destinies of the universe lead our councils to what is best, and give them a favorable issue for your peace and prosperity.

My own race is nearly run; advanced age and failing health warn me that before long I must pass beyond the reach of human events and cease to feel the vicissitudes of human affairs. I thank God that my life has been spent in a land of liberty, and that He has given me a heart to love my country with the affection of a son. And filled with gratitude for your constant and unwavering kindness, I bid you a last and affectionate farewell.

Gentlemen of the Convention, in the name of the great Republic, the only republic that ever existed upon this earth; in the name of all her defenders and of all her supporters; in the name of all her soldiers living; in the name of all her soldiers who died upon the field of battle; and in the name of those who perished in the skeleton clutch of famine at Andersonville and Libby,

whose sufferings he so eloquently remembers. Illinois nominates for the next President of this country that prince of parliaments, that leader of leaders, James G. Blaine.

Four years ago, O Illinois, we took from your midst an untried man and from among the people. We return him to you a mighty conqueror. Not thine any more, but the nation's; not ours, but the world's. Give him place, O ye prairies. In the midst of this great continent his dust shall rest, a sacred treasure to myriads who shall pilgrim to that shrine to kindle anew their zeal and patriotism. Ye winds that move over the mighty places of the West, chant his requiem. Ye people, behold a martyr whose blood, as so many articulate words, pleads for fidelity, for law, for liberty.

I can only hope that, as time passes, and our people become better informed, they will be more just, and that ill feeling of every kind will pass away; that in future all who love freedom here will hold converse with all who love freedom there, and that the two nations, separated as they are by the ocean, come as they are, notwithstanding, of one stock, may be in future time united in soul, and may work together for the advancement of the liberties and the happiness of mankind.

And I must add, in conclusion, that I shall never forget that it is mainly owing to the earnest

support of many warm friends whom I now see around me, that I am again able to tender to you all my heartfelt thanks as one of the representatives of this flourishing and important constituency.

No truth can perish, no truth can pass away; the flame is undying, tho generations disappear. Wherever moral truth has struck into being, humanity claims and guards the greatest bequest. Each generation gathers together imperishable children of the past, and increases them by new sons of light alike radiant with immortality.

It is in vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry, peace, peace—but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!

You think me a fanatic to-night, for you read history not with your eyes, but with your prejudices. But fifty years hence, when Truth gets a hearing, the Muse of History will put Phocion for

the Greek, and Brutus for the Roman, Hampden for England, Lafayette for France, choose Washington as the bright, consummate flower of our earlier civilization, and John Brown the ripe fruit of our noon-day; then, dipping her pen in the sunlight, will write in the clear blue, above them all, the name of the soldier, the statesman, the martyr, Toussaint L'Ouverture.

It is for America to falsify the cynical foreboding. Let her take her place side by side with England in the very van of freedom and of progress. United by a common language, by common blood, by common memories, by a common history, by common interests, by common hopes, united by the common glory of great men, of which this temple of silence and reconciliation is the richest shrine, be it the stedfast purpose of the two peoples who are one people to show to all the world not only the magnificent spectacle of human happiness, but the still more magnificent spectacle of two peoples who are one people loving righteousness and hating iniquity, inflexibly faithful to the principles of eternal justice, which are the unchanging laws of God.

I have now, Senators, done my duty in expressing my opinions fully, freely, and candidly on this solemn occasion. In doing so I have been governed by the motives which have governed me in all the stages of the agitation of the slavery question since its commencement. I have exerted

myself during the whole period to arrest it, with the intention of saving the Union if it could be done; and if it could not, to save the section where it has pleased Providence to cast my lot, and which I sincerely believe has justice and the Constitution on its side. Having faithfully done my duty to the best of my ability, both to the Union and my section, throughout this agitation, I shall have the consolation, let what will come, that I am free from all responsibility.

When Gibbon finished his history of Rome, he said, "The hand will never go back upon the dial of time, when everything was hidden in fear in the dark ages." He made that boast as he stood at night in the ruins of the Corsani Palace, looking out upon the places where the monks were chanting. That vision disappeared, and there arose in its stead the Temple of Jupiter. Could he look back upon the past, he would see nations that went up in their strength, and down to graves with fire in one hand, and iron in the other hand, before Rome was peopled, which, in their strength, were crusht in subduing civilization. But it is a very different principle that governs this land; it is one which should govern every land; it is one which this nation needs to practise this day. It is the human property; it is the divine will that any man has the right to know anything which he knows will be serviceable to himself and to his fellow man, and that will make art immortal if God means that it shall last.

Go on, hand in hand, O States, never to be disunited! Be the praise and heroic song of all posterity! Join your invincible might to do worthy and godlike deeds! And then—but I will not add, as John Milton added, in closing his inimitable appeal on Reformation in England, two centuries and a half ago—"A cleaving curse be his inheritance to all generations who seek to break your Union!" No imprecations or anathemas shall escape my lips on this auspicious day. Let me rather invoke, as I devoutly and fervently do, the choicest and richest blessings of heaven on those who shall do most in all time to come to preserve our beloved country in unity, peace, and concord!

You will not fear that I am enjoining too stern an asceticism. Ask not, Of what use is a scholarship that systematically retreats? or, Who is the better for the philosopher who conceals his accomplishments and hides his thoughts from the waiting world? Hides his thoughts! Hide the sun and moon. Thought is all light and publishes itself to the universe. It will speak, tho you were dumb, by its own miraculous organ. It will flow out of your actions, your manners, and your face. It will bring you friendships. It will impledge you to truth by the love and expectation of generous minds. By virtue of the laws of that nature which is one and perfect, it shall yield every sincere good that is in the soul to the scholar beloved of earth and heaven.

Gentlemen, let us ever remember that our interest is in concord, not conflict; and that our real eminence rests in the victories of peace, not those of war. We hope that all who are represented here may be moved to higher and nobler efforts for their own and the world's good, and that out of this city may come not only greater commerce and trade for us all, but, more essential than these, relations of mutual respect, confidence and friendship which will deepen and endure. Our earnest prayer is that God will graciously vouchsafe prosperity, happiness and peace to all our neighbors, and like blessings to all the peoples and powers of earth.

It is for this reason, my lords, that I ask you to record your opinion that from a ministry in whom, first of all—the quality of decision of purpose —is wanting, you can hope no good in this crisis of our country's fate. And if you continue to trust them, if for any party reasons Parliament continues to abandon to their care the affairs which they have hitherto so hopelessly mismanaged, you must expect to go on from bad to worse; you must expect to lose the little prestige which you retain; you must expect to find in other portions of the world the results of the lower consideration that you occupy in the eyes of mankind; you must expect to be drawn on, degree by degree, step by step, under the cover of plausible excuses, under the cover of highly philanthropic sentiments, to irreparable disasters, and to disgrace that it will be impossible to efface.

But while seeking these blissful glories for ourselves, let us strive to extend them to other lands. Let the bugles sound the truce of God to the whole world forever. Let the selfish boast of the Spartan women become the grand chorus of mankind. that they have never seen the smoke of an enemy's camp. Let the iron belt of martial music, which now encompasses the earth, be exchanged for the golden cestus of peace, clothing all with celestial beauty. History dwells with fondness on the reverent homage that was bestowed, by massacring soldiers, upon the spot occupied by the sepulcher of the Lord. Vain man! to restrain his regard to a few feet of sacred mold! The whole earth is the sepulcher of the Lord; nor can any righteous man profane any part thereof. Let us recognize this truth, and now, on this Sabbath of our country, lay a new stone in the grand temple of universal peace, whose dome shall be as lofty as the firmament of heaven, as broad and comprehensive as the earth itself.

We know, my friends, that before this tribunal we all of us plead in vain. Why we fail, let those answer who read the touching words of Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural and remember that he pleaded with these same men and their predecessors. Where he failed we can not hope to succeed. But tho we fail here to-day, like our great leader of other days in the larger field before the mightier tribunal which will finally and forever decide this question, we shall be more

than conquerors; for this great nation, shaking off, as it has once before, the influence of a lower civilization, will go on to fulfil its high destiny, until over the South, as well as over the North, shall be spread the full measures of that amazing prosperity which is the wonder of the world.

I would not do so great an act of discourtesy or injustice to the honorable members who grace this chamber by their presence and enlighten it by their counsels, nor to the politicians and statesmen of the country generally, as to deny that there are many individual exceptions to the general averment I have made as to the passions and influences which control public affairs. But, with this explanation, I repeat that all political calculations and speculations verge to one end. One idea reigns triumphant throughout the land—the idea of power! And this, too, at such a period in the affairs of the world; this, too, in the American republic! Well may we invoke the spirit and the counsels of Washington to inspire us with wisdom and kindle once more in our bosoms the flame of revolutionary patriotism.

And now, sir, I dismiss the right honorable gentleman and his Greek arguments. I trust I have given him and them satisfactory answers. Transcendent as are the abilities of the right honorable gentleman, I believe that even his talents will not support a case when truth is in the other scale. But truth, if it does not prevail here, will prevail elsewhere. The country is

beginning to appreciate what is the truth in this question. The country will fully appreciate, too, the motives which induce you, after four years of silence, now at length to come forward and attack the noble lord at the head of the foreign affairs of this country. But whatever may be the result here, I tell you that the people of England will only rally the more heartily around that government which stands pledged to extend the safeguard of its power to all its subjects, in whatever land their business may have led them; and which is also able and willing, if on any occasion it may be too late to interfere for the purposes of protection, at all events to stand forward and to demand from them reparation and redress.

Our cause, then, must be entrusted to, and conducted by, its own undoubted friends—those whose hands are free, whose hearts are in the work—who *do care* for the result. Two years ago the Republicans of the nation mustered over thirteen hundred thousand strong. We did this under the single impulse of resistance to a common danger. With every external circumstance against us, of strange, discordant, and even hostile elements, we gathered from the four winds, and formed and fought the battle through, under the constant hot fire of a disciplined, proud, and pampered enemy. Did we brave all then, to falter now?—now, when that same enemy is wavering, dissevered, and belligerent! The result is not doubtful. We shall not fail—if we stand firm.

we *shall not fail.* Wise counsels may accelerate, or mistakes delay it; but, sooner or later, the victory is sure to come.

See how life is warmed and illumined by mirth! See how the beings of the mind, with which it has peopled our imaginations, wrestle with the ills of existence—feeling their way into the harshest or saddest meditations, with looks that defy calamity; relaxing muscles made rigid with pain; hovering o'er the couch of sickness, with sunshine and laughter in their beneficent faces; softening the austerity of thoughts whose awful shadows dim and darken the brain—loosening the gripe of misery as it tugs at the heartstring! Let us court the society of these gamesome, and genial, and sportive, and sparkling beings, whom genius has left to us as a priceless bequest; push them not from the daily walks of the world's life; let them scatter some humanities in the sullen marts of business; let them glide in through the open doors of the heart, let their glee lighten up the feast, and gladden the fireside of home—

"That the night may be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
May fold their tents, like the Arabs,
And as silently steal away."

SPEECHES FOR STUDY

TOAST TO "WOMAN"

(Responded to by Chauncey M. Depew, before the New England Society, in New York City, December 22d, 1875)

Mr. President: I know of no act of my life which justifies your assertion that I am an expert on this question. I can very well understand why it is that the toast to "Woman" should follow the toast to "The Press." [Laughter.] I am called upon to respond to the best, the most suggestive, and the most important sentiment which has been delivered this evening, at this midnight hour, when the varied and ceaseless flow of eloquence has exhausted subjects and audience, when the chairs are mainly vacant, the bottles empty, and the oldest veteran and most valiant Roman of us all scarce dares meet the doom he knows awaits him at home. [Laughter.] Bishop Berkeley, when he wrote his beautiful verses upon our Western world, and penned the line "Time's noblest offspring is the last," described not so

clearly our prophetic future as the last and best creation of the Almighty—woman—whom we both love and worship. [Applause.]

We have here the President of the United States and the general of our armies; around these tables is gathered a galaxy of intellect, genius and achievement seldom presented on any occasion, but none of them would merit the applause we so enthusiastically bestow, or have won their high honors, had they not been guided or inspired by the woman they revered or loved.

I have noticed one peculiarity about the toasts this evening very remarkable in the New England Society: every one of them is a quotation from Shakespeare. If Elder Brewster and Carver and Cotton Mather, the early divines of Massachusetts, and the whole colony of Plymouth could have been collected together in general assembly, and have seen with prophetic vision the flower of their descendants celebrating the virtues of this ancestry in sentiments every one of which was couched in the language of a playwright, what would they have said? [Laughter.]

The imagination can not compass the emotions and the utterances of the occasion. But I can understand why this has been done. It is because the most versatile and distinguished actor upon our municipal stage is the president of the New England Society. [Laughter and applause.] We live in an age when from the highest offices of our city the incumbent seeks the stage to achieve his greatest honors. [Laughter.] I see now our worthy president, Mr. Bailey, industriously thumbing his Shakespeare to select these toasts. He admires the airy grace and flitting beauty of Titania; he weeps over the misfortunes of Desdemona and Ophelia. Each individual hair stands on end as he contemplates the character of Lady Macbeth, but as he spends his nights with Juliet, he softly murmurs, "Parting is such sweet sorrow." [Loud laughter.]

You know that it is a physiological fact that the boys take after their mothers, and reproduce the characteristics and intellectual qualities of the maternal, and not the paternal, side. Standing here in the presence of the most worthy

representatives of Plymouth, and knowing as I do your moral and mental worth, the places you fill, and the commercial, financial, humane and catholic impetus you give to our metropolitan life, how can I do otherwise than on bended knee reverence the New England mothers who gave you birth! [Applause.] Your president, in his speech to-night, spoke of himself as a descendant of John Alden. In my judgment, Priscilla uttered the sentiment which gave the Yankee the key-note of success, and condensed the primal elements of his character, when she said to John Alden, "Prythee, why don't you speak for yourself, John?" [Laughter.] That motto has been the spear in the rear and the star in the van of the New Englander's progress. It has made him the most audacious, self-reliant, and irrepressible member of the human family; and for illustration we need look no further than the present descendant of Priscilla and John Alden. [Laughter and applause.]

The only way I can reciprocate your call at this late hour is to keep you here as long as I can.

I think I can see now the descendant of a *Mayflower* immortal who has been listening here to the glories of his ancestry, and learning that he is "the heir of all the ages," as, puffed and swollen with pride of race and history, he stands solitary and alone upon his doorstep, reflects on his broken promise of an early return, and remembers that within "there is a divinity which shapes his end." [Applause and laughter.]

In all ages woman has been the source of all that is pure, unselfish, and heroic in the spirit and life of man. It was for love that Antony lost a world. It was for love that Jacob worked seven long years, and for seven more; and I have often wondered what must have been his emotions when on the morning of the eighth year he awoke and found the homely, scrawny, bony Leah instead of the lovely and beautiful presence of his beloved Rachel. [Laughter.] A distinguished French philosopher answered the narrative of every event with the question, "Who was she?" Helen conquered Troy, plunged all the nations of antiquity into war, and gave that

earliest, as it is still, the grandest epic which has come down through all time. Poetry and fiction are based upon woman's love, and the movements of history are mainly due to the sentiments or ambitions she inspired. Semiramis, Zenobia, Queen Elizabeth, claim a cold and distant admiration; they do not touch the heart. But when Florence Nightingale, or Grace Darling, or Ida Lewis, unselfish and unheralded, peril all to succor and to save, the profoundest and holiest emotions of our nature render them tribute and homage. [Applause.]

Mr. President, there is no aspiration which any man here to-night entertains, no achievement he seeks to accomplish, no great and honorable ambition he desires to gratify, which is not directly related to either or both a mother or a wife. [Applause.] From the hearthstone around which linger the recollections of our mother, from the fireside where our wife awaits us, come all the purity, all the hope, and all the courage with which we fight the battle of life. [Applause.] The man who is not thus inspired, who labors not

so much to secure the applause of the world as the solid and more precious approval of his home, accomplishes little of good for others or of honor for himself. I close with the hope that each of us may always have near us,

> "A perfect woman, nobly planned,
> To warn, to comfort, and command,
> And yet a spirit still, and bright
> With something of an angel light."

[Applause.]

TOAST TO "THE PRESS"

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen: I freely confess that had your chairman given me sufficient notice, I should have thoroughly memorized this impromptu speech.

The toast assigned to me is a very important one. The Press is one of the greatest powers for good or evil in this republic. It is at once the leader, the educator, and the representative of the people. I know that it is often severely criticized, sometimes deservedly, sometimes not, but I also know that there are thousands of men who have consecrated their lives to this calling as one of high and noble duty to their fellow men.

I believe it to be the duty of a newspaper to denounce wrong and injustice, and to uphold truth and righteousness, wherever they may be found. We hear much about an independent press, and that is the only kind of press that can endure among a free people. "Speak your latent conviction," said Emerson, "and it shall be the

universal sense." Let the press speak frankly and boldly what it thinks and believes to be right, and ultimately it will be "the universal sense." The freedom of the press is a natural right, and is sacred as that of the individual. It is as necessary, as imprescriptible, as that of the legislator. Liberty of speech and liberty of opinion go together. Destroy one and you destroy both.

Let us be careful, then, in passing judgment upon the press. Let us show the men of that profession that we believe in them, honor them, and in every reasonable way support them. Each and every man has a part to play in making the press what it should be. Never before in the history of the world has the press wielded so great an influence as at present. It is a time of great social, political, and commercial activity. May this great power continue to stimulate men to higher achievement, to unmask superstition and ignorance wherever they exist, and help men more and more to realize that each should live for the other in unity and peace.

SPEECH FOR A WEDDING

Ladies and Gentlemen: I feel sure you will join heartily with me in drinking a toast to this happy couple. We are reminded upon an occasion of this kind that romance and love still play an important part in our lives. There is every reason to believe that this union will be a very happy one. May the love that is in these two hearts to-day burn with ever-increasing brightness, and may prosperity and happiness attend them always. Ladies and gentlemen: "The Bride and Bridegroom!"

RESPONSE BY THE BRIDEGROOM

Ladies and Gentlemen: I appreciate very deeply the sentiments exprest by my esteemed friend Mr. ——— ——— which you have so generously endorsed. For my wife and myself I thank you most sincerely. I am sure we shall both look back to this occasion with the happiest remembrances. Your bright faces and cordial good wishes are a promising augury of what is in store for us. I believe it is customary at such a time as this to offer wholesome advice to bachelors, but I shall not succumb to any such temptation. Before I sit down, however, I wish to propose another toast, that of the "Bridesmaids," coupled with the wish that they, too, may soon enter the circle of the elect.

SPEECH FOR A BIRTHDAY

Ladies and Gentlemen: It is my agreeable duty to propose the health of Mr. ——— ———. He is so well known to every one of you that it would be altogether superfluous on my part to refer at length to his sterling qualities. We know him not only for his goodness and generosity, his unfailing gentleness and self-sacrifice, but particularly do we know him for his simple, noble manhood. As the years pass our friendship for him has steadily deepened, and to-day we are proud to call him friend and brother. May he continue long in health and happiness, and now will you join me in wishing him "many happy returns of the day."

RESPONSE AT A BIRTHDAY

Ladies and Gentlemen: I feel greatly honored by the felicitous manner in which you have proposed my health. My dear friend Mr. ——— ——— has somewhat exaggerated the good qualities of his subject; nevertheless, I appreciate every word that has been uttered. He has at least brought to our minds an ideal to which we may all aspire. It is a great pleasure, indeed, to see so many of my old friends gathered here this evening, and I most heartily reciprocate your generous expressions of good-will and friendship. Thank you again for your good wishes, and may you all be spared to meet together for many years to come.

INAUGURAL SPEECH

(Delivered by George Washington, in New York, on April 30th, 1789)

Among the vicissitudes incident to life, no event could have filled me with greater anxieties than that of which the modification was transmitted by your order, and received on the fourth day of the present month. On the one hand, I was summoned by my country, whose voice I can never hear but with veneration and love, from a retreat which I had chosen with the fondest predilection, and, in my flattering hopes, with an immutable decision as the asylum of my declining years; a retreat which was rendered every day more necessary as well as more dear to me, by the addition of habit to inclination, and of frequent interruptions in my health to the gradual waste committed on it by time; on the other hand, the magnitude and difficulty of the trust to which the voice of my country called me, being

sufficient to awaken, in the wisest and most experienced of her citizens, a distrustful scrutiny into his qualifications, and not but overwhelm with despondence one who, inheriting inferior endowments from nature, and unpractised in the duties of civil administration, ought to be peculiarly conscious of his own deficiencies.

In this conflict of emotions, all I dare aver is that it has been my faithful study to collect my duty from a just appreciation of every circumstance by which it might be affected. All I dare hope is, that if, in executing this task, I have been too much swayed by a grateful remembrance of former instances, or by an affectionate sensibility to this transcendent proof of the confidence of my fellow citizens, and have thence too little consulted my incapacity as well as distinction for the weighty and untried cares before me, my error will be palliated by the motives which misled me, and its consequences be judged by my country, with some share of the partiality in which they originated.

Such being the impression under which I have,

in obedience to the public summons, repaired to the present station, it would be peculiarly improper to omit, in this first official act, my fervent supplications to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aid can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States a government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes, and may enable every instrument employed in its administration to execute, with success, the functions allotted to his charge. In tendering this homage to the great Author of every public and private good, I assure myself that it expresses your sentiments not less than my own; nor those of my fellow citizens at large less than either. No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential

agency. And, in the important revolution just accomplished, in the system of their united government, the tranquil deliberations and voluntary consent of so many distinct communities, from which the event has resulted, can not be compared with the means by which most governments have been established without some return of pious gratitude, along with a humble anticipation of the future blessings which the past seems to presage. These reflections, arising out of the present crisis, have forced themselves too strongly on my mind to be supprest. You will join with me, I trust, in thinking that there are none under the influence of which the proceedings of a new and free government can more auspiciously commence.

By the article establishing the executive department, it is made the duty of the President "to recommend to your consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." The circumstances under which I now meet you will acquit me from entering into that subject further than to refer you to the great constitu-

tional charter under which we are assembled; and which, in defining your powers, designates the objects to which your attention is to be given. It will be more consistent with those circumstances and far more congenial with the feelings which actuate me, to substitute, in place of a recommendation of particular measures, the tribute that is due to the talents, the rectitude, and the patriotism which adorn the characters selected to devise and adopt them. In these honorable qualifications, I behold the surest pledges, that as, in one side, no local prejudices, or attachments, no separate views nor party animosities, will misdirect the comprehensive and equal eye which ought to watch over this great assemblage of communities and interests—so, on another, that the foundations of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality; and the preeminence of a free government be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affections of its citizens and command the respect of the world.

I dwell on this prospect with every satisfaction

which an ardent love for my country can inspire; since there is no truth more thoroughly established than that there exists, in the economy and course of nature, an indissoluble union between virtue and happiness—between duty and advantage—between the genuine maxims of an honest and magnanimous policy and the solid rewards of public prosperity and felicity—since we ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which heaven itself has ordained—and since the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty, and the destiny of the republican model of government, are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally, staked on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people.

Besides the ordinary objects submitted to your care, it will remain with your judgment to decide how far an exercise of the occasional power delegated by the fifth article of the Constitution is rendered expedient, at the present juncture, by the nature of objections which have been urged

against the system, or by the degree of inquietûde which has given birth to them. Instead of undertaking particular recommendations on this subject, in which I could be guided by no lights derived from official opportunities, I shall again give way to my entire confidence in your discernment and pursuit of the public good. For I assure myself that, while you carefully avoided every alteration which might endanger the benefits of a united and effective government, or which ought to await the future lessons of experience, a reverence for the characteristic rights of freemen and a regard for the public harmony will sufficiently influence your deliberations on the question how far the former can be more impregnably fortified, or the latter be safely and more advantageously promoted.

To the preceding observations I have one to add, which will be most properly addrest to the House of Representatives. It concerns myself, and will therefore be as brief as possible.

When I was first honored with a call into the service of my country, then on the eve of an

arduous struggle for its liberties, the light in which I contemplated my duty required that I should renounce every pecuniary compensation. From this resolution I have in no instance departed. And being still under the impression which produced it, I must decline, as inapplicable to myself, any share in the personal emoluments which may be indispensably included in a permanent provision for the executive department; and must accordingly pray that the pecuniary estimates for the station in which I am placed may, during my continuation in it, be limited to such actual expenditures as the public good may be thought to require.

Having thus imparted to you my sentiments, as they have been awakened by the occasion which brings us together, I shall take my present leave, but not without resorting once more to the benign Parent of the human race, in humble application, that, since He has been pleased to favor the American people with opportunities for deliberating in perfect tranquillity, and dispositions for deciding with unparalleled unanimity,

on a form of government for the security of their union and the advancement of their happiness, so His divine blessing may be equally conspicuous in the enlarged views, the temperate consultations, and the wise measures on which the success of this government must depend.

SPEECH TO GRADUATING CLASS

(Delivered before the Yale Law School by John S. Griggs)

Gentlemen of the Graduating Class of the Yale Law School: I commend to you the cultivation of a spirit that will enable you to take a healthy, sound, and cheerful view of the struggles and movements of society, of law, and of government, believing that their tendency is toward improvement, not deterioration. I would wish you to realize and appreciate the humane direction in which recent reforms of jurisprudence have been progressing, and to see to it that, so far as you can aid, the spirit of mercifulness shall not be suffered to decline. The further maintenance of the high authority and repute of our Anglo-Saxor jurisprudence as the foundation of our progress and prosperity and the safeguard of our liberties is entrusted to the bar. The world will judge of the system according to the manner in which its ministers administer it. Beyond his

immediate duty to his client, the lawyer has a larger and wider sphere of duty to the State in illustrating, supporting, and maintaining the priceless value of that system of law and justice which is the heritage of the American people. As the character of the members of that profession is sound, patriotic and pure, so will legislation, the administration of public office and general public sentiment continue upon lines of justice, safety and conservatism.

So I urge you not to strive exclusively for the pecuniary rewards of your profession, and to look forward to a career of influence and usefulness that shall include your neighborhood, your State, your country, within its beneficent reach. For your example, let me commend the ideal of the good lawyer—I do not say the great, but the good lawyer—an ideal that has been realized in the life of every substantial city and court, especially in the older neighborhoods; a man of kindly and benignant disposition, friendly alike with his well-to-do and his poorer fellow townsmen, acquainted with their habits and in-

dividual history, and with a pretty accurate notion of their opinions and prejudices as well as of their ways and means; genial and sociable, yet dignified and self-contained; of staid and comfortable appearance; in manner alert; in conversation always moderate and respectful; shrewd in his observations; wise, but with perennial humor and love of pleasantry; as a citizen, always concerned and active in the interests of his town, his State and his country; not an agitator, nor a perpetual fault-finder, nor giving out the intimation that he is better or wiser than others; but ready to confer, to adjust, to agree, to get the best possible, if not the utmost, that is desirable; to him the people turn in local emergencies for guidance and counsel on their public affairs, even partizanship fearing not to trust to his honor and wisdom; so free from all cause of offense that there is no tongue to lay a word against his pure integrity—too dignified and respectful to tempt familiarity; too genial and generous to provoke envy or jealousy; revered by his brethren of the bar; helpful and kindly to the young; in manner

suave and polite, with a fine courtliness of the old flavor, which Clarendon described in John Hampden as "a flowing courtesy toward all men"; successful, of course, in his practise, but caring less for its profits than for the forensic and intellectual delight which the study and practise of the law bring to him; he knows much of the old "learning in the law"—can tell you of fines, of double vouchers and recoveries, of the "Rule in Shelly's Case"—tho he keeps all these things in mind as collectors treasure their antiques and curios, more as objects of art and historical interest than of practical utility. His mind is grounded upon the broad and deep principles of jurisprudence rather than upon "wise saws and modern instances"; but over all is reflected the illumination of a strong common sense and a refined tactfulness. To his clients he is an object of confidence and real affection; the secure depositary of family secrets, and the safe guide and counselor in trouble and difficulty; composing, not stirring up strife, but when in actual trial strong, aggressive, confident; never

quibbling or dissembling; respectful to witnesses, to jurors and to judge, as well as to his adversary.

In the judgment and feeling of the community there is something of the venerable and illustrious attached to his name; not for his learning in the law nor for his success as an advocate, nor for his usefulness to his fellow citizens as a counselor and guide, but for the benignant influence of his whole life and character; and when he dies to every mind there comes a suggestion of the epitaph that shall most fittingly preserve the estimate which the people have formed of him—"The just man and the counselor."

NOMINATION SPEECH

(Delivered by Roscoe Conkling before the National Republican Convention at Chicago, Illinois, June, 1880, in nominating General Grant for a third term)

When asked whence comes our candidate, we say from Appomattox. Obeying instructions I should never dare to disregard, expressing also my own firm conviction, I rise in behalf of the State of New York to propose a nomination with which the country and the Republican party can grandly win. The election before us will be the Austerlitz of American politics. It will decide whether for years to come the country will be "Republican or Cossack." The need of the hour is a candidate who can carry the doubtful States, North and South; and believing that he more surely than any other can carry New York against any opponent, and carry not only the North, but several States of the South, New York is for Ulysses S. Grant. He alone of living Republicans has carried New York as a Presidential candidate. Once he car-

ried it even according to a Democratic count, and twice he carried it by the people's vote, and he is stronger now than in 1868 or 1872. Never defeated in war or in peace, his name is the most illustrious borne by any living man; his services attested his greatness, and the country knows them by heart. His fame was born not alone of things written and said, but of the arduous greatness of things done, and dangers and emergencies will search in vain in the future, as they have searched in vain in the past, for any other on whom the nation leans with such confidence and trust. Standing on the highest eminence of human distinction, and having filled all lands with his renown, modest, firm, simple, and self-poised, he has seen, not only the titled, but the poor and the lowly, in the utmost ends of the world rise and uncover before him. He has studied the needs and defects of many systems of government, and he comes back a better American than ever, with a wealth of knowledge and experience added to the hard common sense which so conspicuously distinguished him in all the fierce light that beat

upon him throughout the most eventful, trying, and perilous sixteen years of the nation's history.

Never having had "a policy to enforce against the will of the people," he never betrayed a cause or a friend, and the people will never betray or desert him. Vilified and reviled, truthlessly aspersed by numberless presses, not in other lands, but in his own, the assaults upon him have strengthened and seasoned his hold upon the public heart. The ammunition of calumny has all been exploded; the powder has all been burned once, its force is spent, and General Grant's name will glitter as a bright and imperishable star in the diadem of the republic when those who have tried to tarnish it will have molded in forgotten graves and their memories and epitaphs have vanished utterly.

Never elated by success, never deprest by adversity, he has ever in peace as in war shown the very genius of common sense. The terms he prescribed for Lee's surrender foreshadowed the wisest principles and prophecies of true reconstruction.

Victor in the greatest of modern wars, he quickly signalized his aversion to war and his love of peace by an arbitration of international disputes which stands as the wisest and most majestic example of its kind in the world's diplomacy. When inflation, at the height of its popularity and frenzy, had swept both Houses of Congress, it was the veto of Grant which, single and alone, overthrew expansion and cleared the way for specie resumption. To him, immeasurably more than to any other man, is due the fact that every paper dollar is as good as gold. With him as our leader, we shall have no defensive campaign, no apologies or explanations to make. The shafts and arrows have all been aimed at him and lie broken and harmless at his feet. Life, liberty, and property will find a safeguard in him. When he said of the black man in Florida, "Wherever I am they may come also," he meant that if he had the power to help it, the poor dwellers in the cabins of the South should not be driven in terror from the homes of their childhood and the graves of their murdered dead.

When he refused to receive Denis Kearney he meant that the lawlessness and communism, altho it should dictate laws to a whole city, would everywhere meet a foe in him, and, popular or unpopular, he will hew to the line of right, let the chips fly where they may.

His integrity, his common sense, his courage, and his unequalled experience are the qualities offered to his country. The only argument against accepting them would amaze Solomon. He thought there could be nothing new under the sun. Having tried Grant twice and found him faithful, we are told we must not, even after an interval of years, trust him again. What stultification does not such a fallacy involve? The American people excluded Jefferson Davis from public trust. Why? Because he was the arch traitor and would be a destroyer. And now the same people are asked to ostracise Grant and not trust him. Why? Because he was the arch preserver of his country; because, not only in war, but afterward, twice as a civic magistrate, he gave his highest, noblest efforts to the republic.

Is such absurdity an electioneering jugglery or hypocrisy's masquerade?

There is no field of human activity, responsibility, or reason in which rational beings object to Grant because he has been weighed in the balance and not found wanting, and because he has had unequaled experience, making him exceptionally competent and fit. From the man who shoes your horse to the lawyer who pleads your case, the officer who manages your railway, the doctor into whose hands you give your life, or the minister who seeks to save your soul, what now do you reject because you have tried him and by his works have known him? What makes the Presidential office an exception to all things else in the common sense to be applied to selecting its incumbent? Who dares to put fetters on the free choice and judgment which is the birthright of the American people? Can it be said that Grant has used official power to perpetuate his plan? He has no place. No official power has been used by him. Without patronage or power, without telegraph wires running from his house

to the convention, without electioneering contrivances, without effort on his part, his name is on his country's lips, and he is struck at by the whole Democratic party because his nomination will be the death-blow to Democratic success. He is struck at by others who find offense and disqualification in the very service he has rendered and the very experience he has gained. Show me a better man. Name one and I am answered; but do not point, as a disqualification, to the very facts which make this man fit beyond all others. Let not experience disqualify or excellence impeach him. There is no third term in the case, and the pretense will die with the political dog-days which engendered it. Nobody is really worried about a third term except those hopelessly longing for a first term and the dupes they have made. Without bureaus, committees, officials, or emissaries to manufacture sentiment in his favor, without intrigue or effort on his part, Grant is the candidate whose supporters have never threatened to bolt. As they say, he is a Republican who never wavers. He and his

friends stood by the creed and the candidates of the Republican party, holding the right of a majority as the very essence of their faith, and meaning to uphold that faith against the common enemy and the charlatans and the guerrillas who from time to time deploy between the lines and forage on one side or the other.

The Democratic party is a standing protest against progress. Its purposes are spoils. Its hope and very existence is a solid South. Its success is a menace to prosperity and order.

This convention, as master of a supreme opportunity, can name the next President of the United States and make sure of his election and his peaceful inauguration. It can break the power which dominates and mildews the South. It can speed the nation in a career of grandeur eclipsing all past achievements. We have only to listen above the din and look beyond the dust of an hour to behold the Republican party advancing to victory with its greatest marshal at its head.

SPEECH AT INSTALLATION

(From a speech delivered by Thomas Jefferson, March 4, 1801, on assuming the Presidency of the United States).

Friends and Fellow Citizens: Called upon to undertake the duties of the first executive office of our country, I avail myself of the presence of that portion of my fellow citizens which is here assembled to express my grateful thanks for the favor with which they have been pleased to look toward me, to declare a sincere consciousness that the task is above my talents, and that I approach it with those anxious and awful presentiments which the greatness of the charge and the weakness of my powers, so justly inspire. A rising nation, spread over a wide and fruitful land, traversing all the seas with the rich productions of their industry, engaged in commerce with nations who feel power and forget right, advancing rapidly to destinies beyond the reach of mortal

eye; when I contemplate these transcendent objects, and see the honor, the happiness, and the hopes of this beloved country committed to the issue and the auspices of this day, I shrink from the contemplation, and humble myself before the magnitude of the undertaking. Utterly, indeed, should I despair, did not the presence of many whom I see here remind me that in the other high authorities provided by our constitution I shall find resources of wisdom, of virtue, and of zeal, on which to rely under all difficulties. To you, then, gentlemen, who are charged with the sovereign functions of legislation, and to those associated with you, I look with encouragement for that guidance and support which may enable us to steer with safety the vessel in which we are all embarked, amid the conflicting elements of a troubled world.

During the contest of opinion through which we have passed, the animation of discussions and of exertions has sometimes worn an aspect which might impose on strangers unused to think freely, and to speak and to write what they think; but

this being now decided by the voice of the nation, announced according to the rules of the constitution, all will, of course, arrange themselves under the will of the law, and unite in common efforts for the common good. And, too, will bear in mind this sacred principle, that tho the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will, to be rightful, must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal laws must protect, and to violate which would be oppression. Let us, then, fellow citizens, unite with one heart and one mind, let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty and even life itself are but dreary things.

And let us reflect, that having banished from our land that religious intolerance under which mankind so long bled and suffered, we have yet gained little, if we countenance a political intolerance, as despotic, as wicked, and as capable of as bitter and bloody persecutions. During the throes and convulsions of the ancient world, during the agonizing spasms of infuriated man, seeking through blood and slaughter his long-lost liber-

ty, it was not wonderful that the agitation of the billows should reach even this distant and peaceful shore; that this should be more felt and feared by some, and less by others, and should divide opinions as to measures of safety; but every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all Republicans; we are all Federalists. If there be any among us who wish to dissolve this Union, or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated, where reason is left free to combat it. I know, indeed, that some honest men fear that a republican government can not be strong; that this government is not strong enough. But would the honest patriot, in the full tide of successful experiment, abandon a government, which has so far kept us free and firm, on the theoretic and visionary fear that this government, the world's best hope, may, by possibility, want energy to preserve itself? I trust not. I believe this, on the contrary, the strongest government on

earth. I believe it the only one where every man, at the call of the law, would fly to the standard of the law, and would meet invasions of the public order as his own personal concern. Sometimes it is said that man can not be trusted with the government of himself. Can he then be trusted with the government of others? Or, have we found angels in the form of kings, to govern him? Let history answer this question.

Let us, then, with courage and confidence, pursue our own federal and republican principles; our attachment to union and representative government. Kindly separated by nature and a wide ocean from the exterminating havoc of one-quarter of the globe; too high-minded to endure the degradation of the others, possessing a chosen country, with room enough for our descendants to the thousandth and thousandth generation, entertaining a due sense of our equal right to the use of our own faculties, to the acquisition of our own industry, to honor and confidence from our fellow citizens, resulting not from birth, but from our actions and their sense of them, enlightened by a

benign religion, profest indeed and practised in various forms, yet all of them inculcating honesty, truth, temperance, gratitude, and the love of man, acknowledging and adoring an overruling Providence, which, by all its dispensations, proves that it delights in the happiness of man here, and his greater happiness hereafter; with all these blessings, what more is necessary to make us a happy and prosperous people? Still one thing more, fellow citizens, a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government; and this is necessary to close the circle of our felicities.

About to enter, fellow citizens, upon the exercise of duties which comprehend everything dear and valuable to you, it is proper you should understand what I deem the essential principles of our government, and consequently, those which ought to shape its administration. I will compress them

within the narrowest compass they will bear, stating the general principle, but not all its limitations. Equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political; peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none; the support of State governments in all their rights, as the most competent administrations for our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwarks against anti-republican tendencies; the preservation of the general government in its whole constitutional vigor, as the sheet-anchor of our peace at home and safety abroad; a jealous care of the right of election by the people, a mild and safe corrective of abuses which are lopped by the sword of revolution where peaceable remedies are unprovided; absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of republics, from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism; a well-disciplined militia, our best reliance in peace, and for the first moments of war, till regulars may relieve them; the supremacy of the civil over the

military authority; economy in the public expense, that labor may be lightly burdened; the honest payment of our debts, and sacred preservation of the public faith; encouragement of agriculture, and of commerce as its handmaid; the diffusion of information, and arraignment of all abuses at the bar of the public reason; freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and freedom of person, under the protection of the *habeas corpus,* and trial by juries impartially selected. These principles form the bright constellation which has gone before us and guided our steps through an age of revolution and reformation. The wisdom of our sages, and blood of our heroes, have been devoted to their attainment; they should be the creed of our political faith, the text of civic instruction, the touchstone by which to try the services of those we trust; and should we wander from them in moments of error or of alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps, and to regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty, and safety.

I repair, then, fellow citizens, to the post you have assigned me. With experience enough in

subordinate offices to have seen the difficulties of this, the greatest of all, I have learned to expect that it will rarely fall to the lot of imperfect man to retire from this station with the reputation and the favor which bring him into it. Without pretensions to that high confidence you reposed in our first and greatest revolutionary character, whose preeminent services had entitled him to the first place in his country's love, and destined for him the fairest page in the volume of faithful history, I ask so much confidence only as may give firmness and effect to the legal administration of your affairs. I shall often go wrong through defect of judgment.

When right, I shall often be thought wrong by those whose positions will not command a view of the whole ground. I ask your indulgence for my own errors, which will never be intentional; and your support against the errors of others, who may condemn what they would not, if seen in all its parts. The approbation implied by your suffrage, is a great consolation to me for the past; and my future solicitude will be to retain the good

opinion of those who have bestowed it in advance, to conciliate that of others, by doing them all the good in my power, and to be instrumental to the happiness and freedom of all.

Relying, then, on the patronage of your good-will, I advance with obedience to the work, ready to retire from it whenever you become sensible how much better choices it is in your power to make. And may that infinite power which rules the destinies of the universe, lead our councils to what is best, and give them a favorable issue for your peace and prosperity.

[NOTE TO THE STUDENT:—This inaugural speech by Thomas Jefferson may be profitably studied for its clearness, dignity, and inherent power. It is a good model for general analysis, despite the lengthiness of many of the sentences and the formality of its style.

The modern tendency in the best speech-making is toward simplicity of language and conversational style of utterance. It is important that the student, in his study of speech models, be on his

guard against adopting the cumbersome sentences and formal phraseology frequently employed by speakers of other times.

The best procedure is first to read the speech in its entirety. Then read it a second time, carefully noting each phrase, sentence, and paragraph. Observe the speaker's method of introduction, and his use of illustration, argument, and climax. Closely study the conclusion and its probable effect upon the audience. Underscore parts of special interest, and set down in writing a personal estimate of the speech. This study and analysis of speech models is one of the most valuable aids to the student of public speaking.]

SPEECH OF EULOGY

(Delivered by Archdeacon Farrar in Westminster Abbey, August 4th, 1885, on the death of General Grant)

Eight years have not passed since the Dean of Westminster, whom Americans so much loved and honored, was walking round this abbey with General Grant and explaining to him its wealth of great memorials. Neither of them had attained the allotted span of human life, and for both we might have hoped that many years would elapse before they went down to the grave full of years and honors. But this is already the fourth summer since the dean "fell on sleep," and to-day we are assembled for the obsequies of the great soldier whose sun has set while it yet was day, and at whose funeral service in America tens of thousands are assembled at this moment to mourn with his weeping family and

friends. Life at the best is but as vapor that passeth away.

"The glories of our birth and state
Are shadows, not substantial things."

When death comes, what nobler epitaph can any man have than this—that "having served his generation, by the will of God he fell on sleep!" Little can the living do for the dead. The voices of praise can not delight the closed ear, nor the violence of censure vex it. I would desire to speak simply and directly, and, if with generous appreciation, yet with no idle flattery, of him whose death has made a nation mourn. His private life, the faults and failings of his character, whatever they may have been, belong in no sense to the world. We touch only on his public actions and services—the record of his strength, his magnanimity, his self-control, his generous deeds.

His life falls into four marked divisions, of which each has its own lesson for us. He touched on them himself in part when he said,

"Bury me either at West Point, where I was trained as a youth; or in Illinois, which gave me my first commission; or at New York, which sympathized with me in my misfortunes."

His wish has been respected, and on the bluff overlooking the Hudson his monument will stand to recall to the memory of future generations those dark pages of a nation's history which he did so much to close. First came the long early years of growth and training, of poverty and obscurity, of struggle and self-denial. Poor and humbly born, he had to make his own way in the world. God's unseen providence, which men nickname chance, directed his boyhood. A cadetship was given him at the military academy at West Point, and after a brief period of service in the Mexican War, in which he was three times mentioned in dispatches, seeing no opening for a soldier in what seemed likely to be days of unbroken peace, he settled down to humble trades in provincial districts. Citizens of St. Louis still remember the rough backswoodsman who sold cordwood from door to door. He afterward en-

tered the leather trade in the obscure town of Galena.

Men who knew him in those days have said that if any one had predicted that the silent, unprosperous, unambitious man, whose chief aim was to get a plank road from his shop to the railway depot, would become twice President of the United States and one of the foremost men of his day, the prophecy would have seemed extravagantly ridiculous.

But such careers are the glory of the American continent. They show that the people have a sovereign insight into intrinsic force. If Rome told with pride how her dictators came from the plow-tail, America, too, may record the answer of the President, who, on being asked what would be his coat of arms, answered proudly, mindful of his early struggles, "A pair of shirt-sleeves."

The answer showed a noble sense of the dignity of labor, a noble superiority to the vanities of feudalism, a strong conviction that men are to be honored simply as men, not for the prizes of accident and birth. You have of late years had two

martyr Presidents. Both were sons of the people. One was the homely man who at the age of seven was a farm lad, at nineteen a rail-splitter, at twenty a boatman on the Mississippi, and who in manhood proved to be one of the strongest, most honest, and most God-fearing of modern rulers. The other grew up from a shoeless child in a log hut on the prairies, round which the wolves howled in the winter snow, to be a humble teacher in Hiram Institute. With these Presidents America need not blush to name also the leather-seller of Galena.

Every true man derives his patent of nobleness direct from God. Did not God choose David from the sheepfolds to make him ruler of his people Israel? Was not the "Lord of life and all the worlds" for thirty years a carpenter at Nazareth? Do not such careers illustrate the prophecy of Solomon, "Seest thou the man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings." When Abraham Lincoln sat, book in hand, day after day, under the tree, moving round it as the shadow moved, absorbed in mastering his task;

when James Garfield rang the bell at Hiram Institute day after day, on the very stroke of the hour, and swept the schoolroom as faithfully as he mastered the Greek lesson; when Ulysses Grant, sent with his team to meet some men who were to load the cart with logs, and finding no men there, loaded the cart with his own boy strength—they showed in conscientious duty and thoroughness the qualities which were to raise them to rule the destinies of men.

But the youth was not destined to die in that deep valley of obscurity and toil in which it is the lot—perhaps the happy lot—of many of us to spend our little lives. The hour came; the man was needed.

In 1861 there broke out the most terrible war of modern days. Grant received a commission as colonel of volunteers, and in four years the struggling toiler had risen to the chief command of a vaster army than has ever been handled by any mortal man. Who could have imagined that four years could make that stupendous difference? But it is often so. The great men

needed for some tremendous crisis have often stept, as it were, through a door in the wall which no one had noticed, and unannounced, unheralded, without prestige, have made their way silently and single-handed to the front.

And there was no luck in it. He rose, it has been said, by the upward gravitation of natural fitness. It was the work of inflexible faithfulness, of indomitable resolution, of sleepless energy, of iron purpose, of persistent tenacity. In battle after battle, in siege after siege, whatever Grant had to do he did it with his might. He undertook, as General Sherman said, what no one else would have adventured, till his very soldiers began to reflect some of his own indomitable determination. With a patience which nothing could tire, with a firmness which no obstacle could daunt, with a military genius which embraced the vastest plans, yet attended to the smallest minutiæ, he defeated one after another every great general of the Confederates except General Stonewall Jackson.

Grant had not only to defeat armies, but to

"annihilate resources"—to leave no choice but destruction or submission. He saw that the brief ravage of the hurricane is infinitely less ruinous than the interminable malignity of the pestilence, and that in that colossal struggle victory—swift, decisive, overwhelming, at all costs—was the truest mercy. In silence, in determination, in clearness of insight, he was your Washington and our Wellington. He was like them also in this, that the word "can't" did not exist in his soldier's dictionary, and that all that he achieved was accomplished without bluster and without parade.

After the surrender at Appomattox, the war of the secession was over. It was a mighty work, and Grant had done it mightily. Surely the light of God, which manifests all things in the slow history of their ripening, has shown that for the future destinies of a mighty nation it was a necessary and a blest work. The Church hurls her most indignant anathema at unrighteous war, but she has never refused to honor the faithful soldier who fights in the cause of his country and

his God. The gentlest and most Christian of poets has used the tremendous words that—

"God's most dreaded instrument,
In working out a pure intent,
Is man—arrayed for mutual slaughter;
Yea, carnage is his daughter."

We shudder even as we quote the words; but yet the cause for which Grant thought—the unity of a great people, the freedom of a whole race of mankind—was as great and noble as that when at Lexington the embattled farmers fired the shot which was heard round the world. The South has accepted that desperate and bloody arbitrament. Two of the Southern generals will bear General Grant's funeral pall. The rancor and the fury of the past are buried in oblivion. True friends have been made out of brave foemen, and the pure glory and virtue of Lee and Stonewall Jackson will be part of the common national heritage with the fame of Garfield and of Grant.

As Wellington became Prime Minister of England, and was hooted in the streets of London, so Grant, more than half against his will, became

President, and for a time lost much of his popularity. He foresaw it all; but it is for a man not to choose, rather to accept his destiny. What verdict history will pronounce on him as a politician I know not; but here and now the voice of censure, deserved and undeserved, is silent. When the great Duke of Marlborough died, and one began to speak of his avarice, "He was so great a man," said Bolingbroke, "that I had forgotten he had that fault."

It was a fine and delicate rebuke; and ours, at any rate, need not be the "feeble hands iniquitously just" which rake up a man's faults and errors. Let us write his virtues "on brass for man's example; let his faults, whatever they may have been, be written in water." The satirist has said how well it would have been for Marius if he had died as he stept from the chariot of his Cimbric victory; for Pompeius, if he had died after his Mithridatic war. And some may think how much happier it would have been for General Grant had he died in 1865, when steeples clashed and cities were illuminated and congre-

gations rose in his honor. Many and dark clouds overshadowed the evening of his days—the blow of financial ruin, the dread of a tarnished reputation, the terrible agony of an incurable disease.

To bear that sudden ruin and that speechless agony required a courage nobler and greater than that of the battle-field, and human courage rose to the height of human calamity. In ruin, in sorrow, on the lingering death-bed, Grant showed himself every inch a hero, bearing his agonies and trials without a murmur, with rugged stoicism, and unflinching fortitude, and we believe with a Christian prayer and peace. Which of us can tell whether those hours of torture and misery may not have been blessings in disguise?

We were gathered here to do honor to his memory. Could we be gathered in a more fitting place? We do not lack here memorials to recall the history of your country. There is the grave of André; there is the monument raised by grateful Massachusetts to the gallant Howe; there is the temporary resting-place of George Peabody; there is the bust of Longfellow; over the dean's

grave there is the faint semblance of Boston Harbor.

We add another memory to-day. Whatever there be between the two nations to forget and to forgive, it is forgotten and it is forgiven. "I will not speak of them as two peoples," said General Grant in 1877, "because, in fact, we are one people with a common destiny, and that destiny will be brilliant in proportion to the friendship and cooperation of the brethren dwelling on each side of the Atlantic."

If the two peoples which are one people be true to their duty, true to their God, who can doubt that in their hands are the destinies of the world? Can anything short of utter dementation ever thwart a destiny so manifest? Your founders were our sons. It was from our past that your present grew. The monument of Sir Walter Raleigh is not that nameless grave in St. Margaret's; it is the State of Virginia. Yours alike and ours are the memories of Captain John Smith and Pocahontas, of the Pilgrim Fathers, of General Oglethorpe's strong benevolence of

soul, of the mission labors of Eliot and Brainerd, of the apostolic holiness of Berkeley, and the burning zeal of Wesley and Whitefield. Yours alike and ours are the plays of Shakespeare and the poems of Milton; ours alike and yours all that you have accomplished in literature or in history—the wisdom of Franklin and Adams, the eloquence of Webster, the song of Longfellow and Bryant, the genius of Hawthorne and Irving, the fame of Washington, Lee, and Grant.

But great memories imply great responsibilities. It was not for nothing that God has made England what she is; not for nothing that the "free individualism of a busy multitude, the humble traders of a fugitive people," snatched the new world from feudalism and from bigotry —from Philip II and Louis XIV; from Menendez and Montcalm; from the Jesuit and the Inquisition; from Torquemada and from Richelieu—to make it the land of the Reformation and the Republic, of prosperity and of peace. "Let us auspicate all our proceedings on America," said Edmund Burke, "with the old Church cry,

sursum corda." It is for America to live up to the spirit of such words. We have heard of

"New times, new climes, new lands, new men; but still
The same old tears, old crimes, and oldest ill."

It is for America to falsify the cynical foreboding. Let her take her place side by side with England in the very van of freedom and of progress. United by a common language, by common blood, by common memories, by a common history, by common interests, by common hopes, united by the common glory of great men, of which this temple of silence and reconciliation is the richest shrine, be it the stedfast purpose of the two peoples who are the people to show to all the world not only the magnificent spectacle of human happiness, but the still more magnificent spectacle of two peoples who are one people loving righteousness and hating iniquity, inflexibly faithful to the principles of eternal justice, which are the unchanging law of God.

FUNERAL ORATION

(Delivered by Robert Green Ingersoll at Washington, D. C., June 3, 1879, at the funeral of his brother, Ebon C. Ingersoll)

My Friends: I am going to do that which the dead oft promised he would do for me.

The loved and loving brother, husband, father, friend died where manhood's morning almost touches noon, and while the shadows still were falling toward the west.

He had not passed on life's highway the stone that marks the highest point, but, being weary for a moment, he lay down by the wayside, and, using his burden for a pillow, fell into that dreamless sleep that kisses down his eyelids still. While yet in love with life and raptured with the world he passed to silence and pathetic dust.

Yet, after all, it may be best, just in the happiest, sunniest hour of all the voyage, while eager

winds are kissing every sail, to dash against the unseen rock, and in an instant hear the billows roar above a sunken ship. For, whether in mid-sea or 'mong the breakers of the farther shore, a wreck at last must mark the end of each and all. And every life, no matter if its every hour is rich with love and every moment jeweled with a joy, will, at its close, become a tragedy as sad and deep and dark as can be woven of the warp and woof of mystery and death.

This brave and tender man in every storm of life was oak and rock, but in the sunshine he was vine and flower. He was the friend of all heroic souls. He climbed the heights and left all superstitions far below, while on his forehead fell the golden dawning of the grander day.

He loved the beautiful, and was with color, form, and music touched to tears. He sided with the weak, and with a willing hand gave alms; with loyal heart and with purest hands he faithfully discharged all public trusts.

He was a worshiper of liberty, a friend of the opprest. A thousand times I have heard him

quote these words: "For justice all place a temple, and all seasons, summer." He believed that happiness was the only good, reason the only torch, justice the only worship, humanity the only religion, and love the only priest. He added to the sum of human joy; and were every one to whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave, he would sleep to-night beneath a wilderness of flowers.

Life is a narrow vale between the cold and barren peaks of two eternities. We strive in vain to look beyond the heights. We cry aloud, and the only answer is the echo of our wailing cry. From the voiceless lips of the unreplying dead there comes no word; but in the night of death hope sees a star, and listening love can hear the rustle of a wing.

He who sleeps here, when dying, mistaking the approach of death for the return of health, whispered with the latest breath: "I am better now." Let us believe, in spite of doubts and dogmas, and tears and fears, that these dear words are true of all the countless dead.

And now, to you who have been chosen, from among the many men he loved, to do the last sad office for the dead, we give his sacred dust. Speech can not contain our love. There was, there is, no greater, stronger, manlier man.

FAREWELL SPEECH

(Delievered by Abraham Lincoln at Springfield, Illinois, February 11th, 1861)

My Friends: No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place and the kindness of this people I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that divine Being who ever attended him I can not succeed. With that assistance I can not fail. Trusting in Him who can go with me and remain with you and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

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